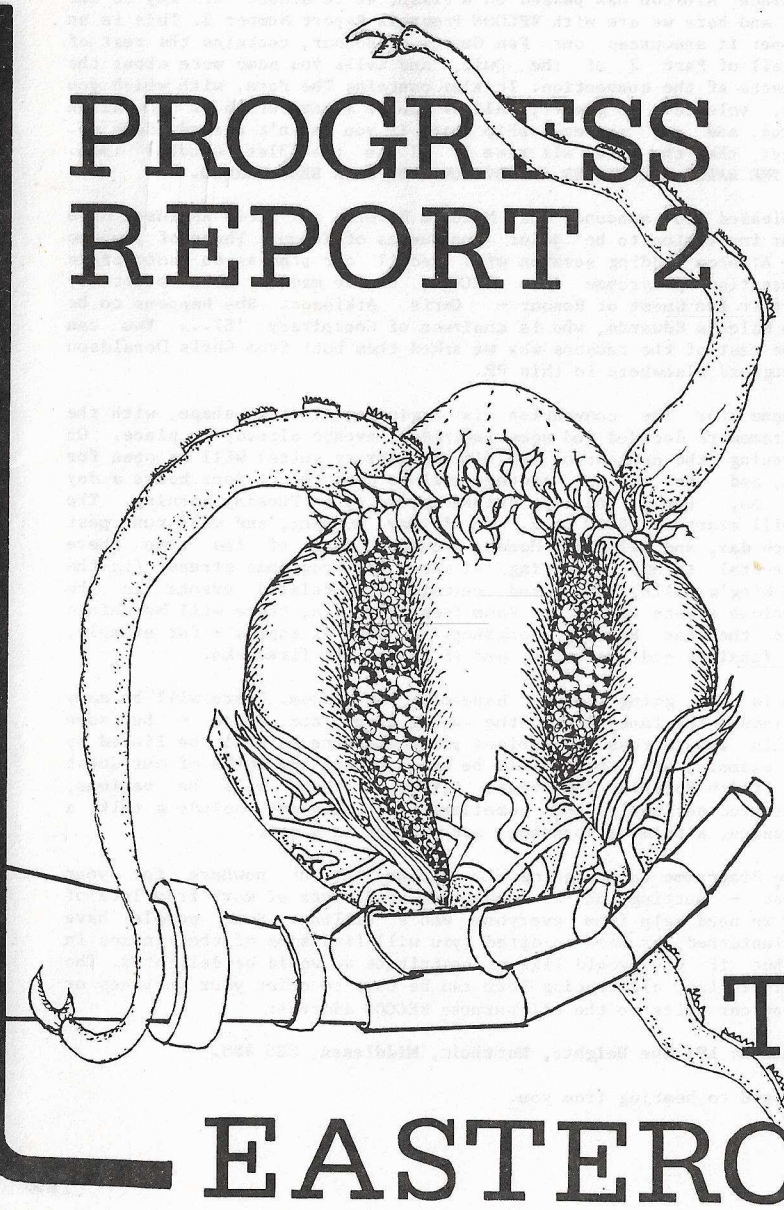
BECCON 87

PROGRESS REPORT 2



THE EASTERCON

BECCON: 17TH to 20TH APRIL 1987 - THE EASTERCON

Hello, again!

The time since Albacon has passed in a flash, we're almost half way to the convention, and here we are with BECCON Progress Report Number 2. This is an important one: it announces our Fan Guests of Honour, contains the rest of Part 1 and all of Part 2 of the Quiz, and tells you some more about the various aspects of the convention. It also contains The Form, with which you book rooms, volunteer to gopher, tell us you're a vegetarian or an alien from Arcturus, and pay us membership money if you haven't already done so. Don't forget that the rates all rise by £1 on the 31st October 1986. **THIS MEANS THE RATES ARE HIGHER AT NOVACON. YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED.**

BECCON is pleased to announce that Malcolm Edwards and Chris Atkinson have accepted our invitation to be joint Fan Guests of Honour. Those of you who were at the Albacon bidding session will recall our promise to incorporate the Contraception programme into BECCON, so we made a good start by borrowing their Fan Guest of Honour - Chris Atkinson. She happens to be married to Malcolm Edwards, who is chairman of Conspiracy '87... You can find out the rest of the reasons why we asked them both from Chris Donaldson and Dave Langford elsewhere in this PR.

The Programme for the convention is beginning to take shape, with the overall framework decided and some individual events already in place. On Thursday evening the convention bar (in the Library suite) will be open for early birds, and one bar or another will be open twenty-four hours a day from then on, until the last drinker gives up on Tuesday morning. The Programme will start at 10.00 a.m. on Friday morning, and will run past midnight each day, and well into Monday evening. Most of the time there will be several things happening at once: two programme streams (in the Queen's and King's halls); films and certain film-related events in the Cinema; various events in the Fan Room (yes, Virginia, there will be things happening in the Fan Room!); workshops on several topics - for example, conrunning, fanzines and costuming; and of course the fireworks.

All of this is not going to be happening at random. There will be many 'one-off' items - the fancy dress, the eating event, the disco - but some events within and across the various programme streams will be linked by themes. For example, one theme will be based around the works of our Guest of Honour, Keith Roberts. The events within a theme will be various, sometimes treated seriously and sometimes not: they may include a talk, a panel discussion, a film, a workshop, and a round in a quiz!

However, the Programme is not going to appear out of nowhere for your entertainment - putting on a convention needs lots of work from lots of people, and we need help from everyone who's willing. Some people have already volunteered, or been co-opted (you will find some of their names in this PR), but if you would like to contribute we would be delighted. The enclosed all-singing, all-dancing Form can be used to offer your services or ideas, or you can write to the all-purpose BECCON address:

BECCON: 191 The Heights, Northolt, Middlesex, UB5 4BU.

We look forward to hearing from you.

CHRIS ATKINSON **by Chris Donaldson**

If you know Chris, there's no real need to read this - you already know that she's easy to talk to, great fun to be with and full of silly ideas for fun. But if you don't know her you may think at first that she looks a little daunting, particularly as she seems to know everyone and everything. But talk to her, and you'll be in for a surprise. Ask her what she finds most interesting. If you expect her to say, "science fiction", "fandom", or even "conventions" you may very well be disappointed. The answer changes with her mercurial interests, but what you'll get at the moment is very likely to be "flying", or perhaps "aeroplanes", or maybe even "Tango Tango" (the call sign, or 'name' of her favourite aeroplane).

If you ask her the same question when she's drunk, she may well give a slightly different answer, but don't be fooled. If she answers, "Sex and aeroplanes", she means exactly what she says. She's the only person I've ever met who fantasises about having sex with rather than in an aeroplane. Mention Tango Tango to her then, and her eyes cloud with emotion. (I'll leave it to Chris to define what the emotion is!)

But what about science fiction, you may wonder? Well, what about it? She reads Ballard, and that's surely enough for fannish credibility. She's currently one of the Conspiracy Cabal, (having been one of the bidding team previously) and responsible for so many areas that even she finds it hard to remember what they all are. She's been attending conventions since the 60's, but tells me she was very young at the time! She's won two Novas for best fanwriter. She's to be found at every major British Con, selling books during the day and drinking in the bar in the evening, never in the programme room. A huge number of her friends are fans. Her fannish credentials are impeccable.

Perhaps the fact that she claims to be on the point of giving it all up (and has been saying so ever since I first met her, some five years ago) is also part of these credentials. Think of other real fans you know. How many of us are always on the point of giving it all up? And how many of us ever do?? Chris is part of the fannish tradition - we may hate it at times, but it's the best we've been able to find so far.

But to say that she's a typical fan would be to underestimate her considerably. How many of the rest of us can poke fun at ourselves the way Chris can? And, if it comes to it, how many of us dream of making love with an aeroplane?

EDWARDS PRO AND CON **by Dave Langford**

Malcolm Edwards: man or myth? Friend or foe? Half-drunk or half-sober? Is there no end to his talents? (Answer withheld on legal advice.) Is he the ruthless SF/fannish empire-builder he sometimes pretends to be... or the builder of ruthless fannish/SF empires which other people call him? All will be revealed, though not here.

I was a mere tot reading Asimov when Malcolm emerged from the fiery melting-pot of the Cambridge University SF Society with an unusual social problem. Imagine coming into fandom only to learn you were a pseudonym of someone like Robert P. Holdstock. The once-famous Peter Weston had been in the habit of writing fanzine columns as "Malcolm Edwards", and...

Undeterred, our hero did various things which I mercifully forget. One was to publish Quicksilver, a serious SF fanzine which his mates still swear was way above average, even as they hide the remaining extant copies from my mocking gaze. With one mighty bound he became editor of the British SF Association's Vector, producing some of its all-time best issues (having as he did the totally unfair advantage of being able to write and review as well as any of the huge name contributors).

The BSFA ended this by inconsiderately though temporarily dying after Vector 67/68. By then Malcolm had bashed out a personal fanzine, Magic Pudding (late 1973, to remind you how cobweb-ridden all this now seems), wherein he confessed "I'm in the middle of an empire-building period right now," and gave a first tentative push to what became the juggernaut of Britain's third Worldcon: Seacon '79. Yes, he was on the committee of that one; and ditto the successful Eastercon, Seacon '75; and moles report that he has some involvement with our fourth Worldcon, Conspiracy '87. Then there was his stint as editor of the very serious Foundation (issues 14-19) and his part in the founding of frivolous, light-hearted Interzone... When does he find time to read SF?

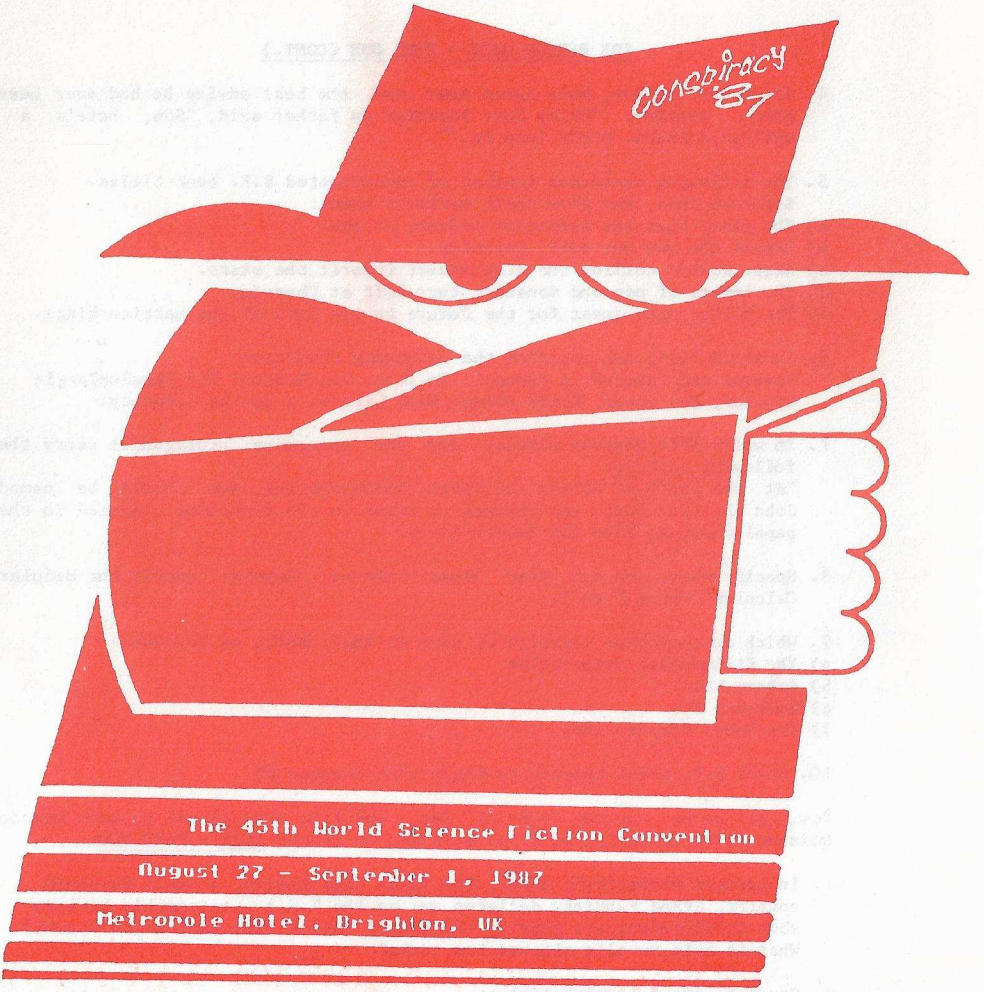
Presumably he must, since with hideous professional efficiency he's done portions of the SF Encyclopedia, half the SF Book of Lists (great SF stories about planetary tilt), and several blockbuster nonfiction collaborations with Rob Holdstock (you know the sort of thing, Twenty Really Triffic Bits Of SF Art Tenuously Linked By A Few Words), meanwhile moving from the lofty rank of publisher's reader (the lucky guy who gets to read Piers Anthony novels that even Grafton won't print) to the ignominy of being SF director at Gollancz (the wicked beast who rejects all your favourite authors like L. Ron Hubbard).

Behind that owlish gaze, do professional and fannish impulses occasionally clash? Malcolm has always been quiet, and sometimes this internal crosstalk makes him even quieter. At other times (separated from "sometimes" by mere pints of lager) he loosens up to make deeply scabrous remarks: no sooner had I jotted down his tasteless one-liner about Heinlein than Malcolm nervously asked me to cross it out again, because "I've just remembered he's one of our authors."

These days he's too circumspect even to publish his erstwhile scandal-sheet Drunkard's Talk, featuring the "Complete Naff Guide to Fandom" and quoting embarassingly awful passages from rejected N*rm*n Sp*nr*d novels. Or maybe that bit was in the tastefully named Tappen, which printed ace stuff by live-in contributor Chris Atkinson and won awards. (Its fifth issue foundered in 1982 under the weight of "Performance", D. West's epoch-making 36-page exploration of the myriad interconnecting ramifications of D. West.)

Shy, retiring, modest, unaffected - maybe not, but I like Malcolm just the same. (He published a quarter of a book by me once: interest declared.) You'll find him in the bar... as the level of the Carlsberg Special goes down, so does the tone of his anecdotes, maliciously ripping the lid off the seething cans of radioactive wormoids otherwise known as SF publishing and SF fandom.

As a Fan GoH, his professional qualifications are impeccable. And when you want to make him writhe, ask him when he's going to do another fanzine.



CONSPIRACY 87 is the name of the 45th World Science Fiction Convention. It will take place in Brighton from August 27th to September 1st, 1987. Conspiracy '87 will be the biggest SF event ever held in Britain and will use all the facilities of the Brighton Centre and the Metropole Hotel & Exhibition Centre. During the convention there will be almost every kind of science fiction related event or activity imaginable. There will be films, talks by famous writers, scientists and personalities, theatrical events, art shows and, on the Sunday evening, the presentation of the Hugo Awards.

Conspiracy has guests coming from all over the world. From the USA we have Alfred Bester. From the USSR not one, but two Strugatskys: Boris and Arkady. British guests include writers Doris Lessing, Brian Aldiss, David Langford, film effects man Ray Harryhausen, artist Jim Burns, and fans Ken and Joyce Slater. And there will be writers, artists and fans from every continent (except possibly Antarctica, though we expect to have a few Penguins in the massive dealers' room where there will be an immense range of books, magazines and memorabilia).

Attending Conspiracy '87 means you may nominate and vote for the Hugo Awards of 1987. Membership costs only £25 (Children 7 or under in August 87 get in free with an adult member; children 8-14 may attend at half the adult rate.) Please send name and address with membership fee to CONSPIRACY 87, PO BOX 43, CAMBRIDGE, ENGLAND, CB1 3JJ (Make cheques payable to CONSPIRACY '87). Or send a large S.A.E for further details.

THE BECCON QUIZ - PART ONE (CONT.)

4. Which S.F. author, when asked what was the best advice he had ever been given, replied: "On my 21st birthday my father said, "Son, here's a million dollars. Don't lose it.""

5. The following sentences consist of concatenated S.F. book titles. Separate them, and give their author's names:
a) The glory that was Byzantium endures an age.
b) Behold the man who split infinity.
c) After worlds collide the disposessed inherit the stars.
d) The lovers of men and monsters turn left at Thursday.
e) The killer mice quest for the future in the hall of the Martian kings.

6. In which novel can you find the following chapters:
Rewards and Fairies; A Farewell To Arms; Vox Humana; The Raggle-Taggle Gypsies; Red Queen, White Queen; Wild Life in a Southern County.

7. In which 1919 fantasy classic did the eponymous protagonist carry the following cantrip:
"At the death of Adrian the Fifth, Pedro Juliani, who should be named John the Twentieth, was through an error in the reckoning elevated to the papal chair as John the Twenty-first."

8. Specify where one can find "Some Informal Remarks towards the Modular Calculus" Parts 1 to 5.

9. Which authors have copyrighted some of their books as follows:-
a) The Kilimanjaro Corporation
b) Agberg Ltd.
c) Serendib BV.
d) The Amber Corporation.

10. Which S.F. novel appears to begin with chapter 2?

Now, as we're running out of PRs, and it's traditional to have Beccon Quizzes in three parts, we'll go straight on to the **QUIZ - PART TWO**:

1. In Leonard Wibberley's novel, The Mouse That Roared, a small European country, Grand Fenwick, declares war on the U.S.A., ostensibly because some Californians are copying their most famous wine (and major export). What is this novel's alternative title?

2. Complete the following titles:-
a) ..... and Other Strangers
b) ..... and Other Extraordinary Visions
c) ..... and Other Journeys
d) ..... and Other Fanciful Regulations

3. "Imagine a person, tall, lean, and feline, high-shouldered, with a brow like Shakespeare and a face like Satan, a close-shaven skull and long magnetic eyes of the true cat green. Invest him with all the cruel cunning of an entire Eastern race, acumulated in one giant intellect, with all the resources of science, past and present ..." Whom?

4. Link the review with the 'critic'...
a) "Unique... spellbinding... it will eventually rival The Lord of the Rings, The Foundation Trilogy and The Lensman Series."
b) "... a many-coloured tapestry of exotic adventure... I anticipate with pleasure its further unrolling in the book to come."

c) "Altogether enchanting and engrossing... it stirs the mind and engages the feelings. I was captivated by its glamorous, sinister movement through the misty forests of Earth's true past."
d) "Vivid... I stayed up two nights running to finish it. The book grips the reader and doesn't let go."
i) Fritz Lieber
ii) Vonda N. McIntyre
iii) Roger Zelazny
iv) Science Fiction Review

5. Who wrote the 'sequel' to Aldous Huxley's novel Brave New World - Brave New World Revisited?

6. In which S.F. novels could one find the following prose 'poems'?:
a) "Stand with me on man's old planet,
gazing north when sky has darkened;
follow down the Dipper's handle,
half again and veering leftwards-
Do you see it? Can you sense it?
Nothing there but cold and darkness.
Try again with both eyes covered,
try once more with inner vision,
hearken now to wild geese honking,
sounding through the endless spaces,
bouncing off the strange equations - " and so on, and so on...
b) "The Red Witch calls for her Chariot of Ten, and orders her cloak of gold.
This day she'll off across the sky to the Ring where the Midworlds go.
This day she'll off across the sky on her own wild ways to show...
There, in the worlds of the Life and the Death, the worlds that she used to know.
Now, some say her name is Mercy and others say it's Lust.
Her secret name is Isis. Her secret soul is dust."

7. At the start of Star Trek II: The Wrath Of Khan, Captain Spock gives Admiral Kirk a book as a birthday gift. Kirk opens it and reads "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..." Name that book.

8. Which is the first book, chronologically, in:-
a) The DAW S.F. series
b) The Timescape S.F. series
c) The ACE 'Doubles' series
d) Badger Books S.S. (Science) series

9. In the Triad/Paladin (Grafton) paperback of Thomas M. Disch's The Businessman A Tale of Terror there is a gross error in the listing of his other works. What is this error?

10. In which S.F. novels will you find space travel achieved through applications of :-
a) Beer.
b) Sewing machines.
c) Cheddite (energised cheese).

NOTE: Answers to the quiz parts 1, 2, & 3 must be received at the registration desk by 10 a.m. on the Saturday morning of the convention (18/4/87). If you will be unable to attend the Convention please be sure to post your entry with plenty of time to spare. Only Supporting or Attending members of Beccon are entitled to enter. The prize, for the most points (correct answers), is a £20.00 book token. The judge's decision is final.

AND SO TO BED.....

Perhaps the most important part of this P.R. is the Hotel Booking Form, so let us review it: There are three points we should make clear before you start filling in The Form:-

Firstly, it will assist the Committee greatly if everone completes The Form, even if they don't want to book a bed.

Secondly, please note that, as with many modern hotels targetted on the businessman, there are VERY few double rooms. If you request a double, therefore, and there are none left, you will be allocated a twin.

Thirdly, the twin and double rooms are located in the Metropole Hotel, whilst the single rooms are located in the adjoining Warwick Hotel - there are less than 100 paces between the front doors of the two hotels.

1) MEMBERSHIP STATUS.

Rooms may only be booked by full attending members, so please first check your status with the listings at the back of this P.R.

2) HOW TO FILL IN THE FORM.

Section A.

Fill in the type-of-room boxes by inserting a tick to show the type of room you want.

Now fill in the nights-required boxes with a tick for each night you want a room. Note that the Convention will start at approx. **10.00 a.m.** on Friday, and end at approx. **9.00 p.m.** on Monday.

Section B.

Fill in your name, address, membership number, and 'phone number. If you are arranging your own sharer for a twin or double, please fill in the same details for them.

Section C.

To assist the Committee in organising room bookings please fill in any relevant details.

Section D.

As you must be an attending member, please send us lots of money. Cheques should be made payable to BECCON.

Section E.

Please fill in any sub-section that applies to you, or your sharer. Remember that you are not committing yourselves to anything by volunteering information or offering to help; we will contact you before the Convention if we wish to take up any of your offers.

To assist you in remembering what you have booked, a copy of Section A is reproduced below.

1) SINGLE.....__ £18.50
2) TWIN .....__ £35.00 (per room)
3) DOUBLE .....__ £35.00 (per room)
4) TWIN - please find me a sharer.....__ £17.50 (per person)
5) NO BED REQUIRED.....__ £00.00

APRIL: THURS 16 ☐ FRI 17 ☐ SAT 18 ☐ SUN 19 ☐ Mon 20 ☐

Our apologies if this form seems a bit beauracratic, but the information we have asked for will help us to provide an enjoyable Eastercon!

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Notes: 1) Membership rates at Novacon will be £11 and £6.
2) Rates for tables in the book room are £2.00 per foot run, not £2.50 as previously stated.

Membership Rates for Adults:

Up to 31 Oct. 1986:	Attending	£10
	Supporting	£ 5
Up to 31 Dec. 1986:	Attending	£11
	Supporting	£ 6
Up to 1 Apr. 1987:	Attending	£12
	Supporting	£ 7

From 1 April 1987: Rates to be announced, but may be expected to increase. Presupporters subtract £1 when they convert to Attending or Supporting status. **Conversion from Supporting to Attending will always be £5.**

The rates for children are fixed:
Children 9 to 14 years: £5
Children up to 8 years: Free but there will be a small charge for children up to 8 in the creche.

Advertising Rates:

	PRs	Programme Book
Full Page - Pro	£15	£30
Half Page - Pro	£ 8	£15
Quarter Page - Pro	£ 5	£ 8
Full Page - Fan	£10	£20
Half Page - Fan	£ 6	£10
Quarter Page - Fan	£ 3	£ 6

Advertisements to be supplied A4 size, camera ready with 15 mm margins all round and half-tones dot-screened. The deadline for PR3 and the Programme Book is 1st February 1987.

Dealers Table Rates:

Rates for tables in the book room will be £2.00 per foot run for the duration of the con. If you are interested please contact us at the BECCON address with your requirements.

All cheques to be made payable to 'BECCON', and all cheques and inquiries to be sent to 191 The Heights, Northolt, Middlesex. UB5 4BU.

PROGRAMMING MATTERS

The Easter Egg Race

The Great Pork Pie Race is dead: Long live the Easter Egg Race! This item will be part of the Children's Hour programming - for children of all ages! The objective will be to build, in a short time and using the materials provided, an apparatus to propel an Easter Egg across a set course, in the fastest, most imaginative or amusing manner. We will need teams for this, so please use The Form to volunteer.

The Debate

We are organising a formal debate (topic to be announced), and Mic Rogers, an experienced debater, has volunteered to chair it. She has asked us to state that the debate will be conducted under formal rules, and a statement of these will be available at the convention for everyone interested.

The Auctions

Brian Ameringen and Roger Robinson will be conducting the book auctions, and Rog Peyton the art auction. For the book auction we intend to display high-quality material beforehand, and auction it at a pre-announced time so that bidders interested in individual items can attend. If you have material you think might be of interest to us, we would very much like to know about it in advance, so fill in the appropriate space on The Form.

The Eating Event

The members of the BECCON committee love food; we have published one cookbook ('There Are Never Enough Mushrooms') to prove it, and another ('Or Garlic') is in preparation. Convention banquets have fallen out of favour in recent years because they are expensive and unduly formal affairs at which the quality of the food is not usually very high. The committee are a perverse lot, who positively prefer to do things differently. When you put these three facts together, it becomes obvious that there will be an Eating Event at BECCON, but one with a difference.

So, the Committee are pleased to invite you all to a Christmas Dinner, with crackers and all the trimmings, on Sunday evening. The meal will be standard Christmas fare, should cost about £8.00 for three courses, and a vegetarian option will be available. Please help us by indicating on The Form whether you are interested in attending so that we can estimate numbers. We will be selling Banquet Tickets during the convention before the meal, so you won't be committing yourselves now.

Dinner will be followed by the presents: the Awards Ceremony - which will of course be open to every member of the convention.

The Fancy Dress

CORRECTION: It was stated in P.R.1 that the winning costume at the Eastercon would be banned from the Worldcon Fancy Dress. This is incorrect - only previous entries in Worldcon competitions are refused entry, so costumes displayed at BECCON will be eligible for Conspiracy. In addition, Anne Page will be organising costuming workshops at BECCON with a view to encouraging and assisting British entries to the Worldcon competition. If you're interested in any aspects of this, please fill in the appropriate part of The Form.

Weapons Policy

Our Weapons Policy is very simple - anything dangerous (i.e. Sharp, Pointed, Very Noisy, Smoke Producing, Missile Projecting, etc.) **MUST** be peace-bonded. Exceptions will be made for special items at the time of the Fancy Dress. Non-bonded items will be examined by our weapons expert, Gytha North, and if in doubt will be tested on their erstwhile owners...

Warning For Visitors.

You may be unaware of the term 'Corkage'; this is the right of any Hotel or Restaurant to charge persons bringing alcoholic beverage onto their premises, a sum usually equal to the cost of that beverage when purchased over their bar.

If you are on a hiking tour on your way to BECCON, please make sure, when staying in the hotel, to put your tents, sleeping bags and other gear out of the way, to avoid any possibility of giving the Hotel Staff the wrong impression.

BOOK ROOM AND ART SHOW: Chris Walton and Ros Calverley. by Ros Calverley

It was going to be a nice relaxing evening out at Mike and Kathy's; just the thing after a week's work. That something else was most definitely in mind became apparent somewhere during the starter; Mike, I might add, had taken good care to offer the wine around first. I forget exactly how the conversation went but when it started to include BECCON committees and their deliberations and somebody wondering aloud whom they knew to be interested in books and who in artwork and how there seemed to be one of each living in convenient proximity in Chichester...well, we began to suspect the worst. To cut a long story short we allowed ourselves to be dragged kicking and screaming persuaded to undertake the organisation of these elements of the convention; we were also invited to contribute a little something to this PR by way of hello.

Chris has been involved in the organisation of several cons in the past, including Novacons of a far greater vintage than he cares to remember; he also served on the committee of BECCON '81. He has been involved in fandom for more years than I can state without serious risk to my health and knows several of the major dealers personally, as they know his wife dealers him. He is, in other words, very well placed to make the most of the excellent facilities offered by the Birmingham Metropole and to ensure that the dealers' room is both an attractive part of the convention for attendees and a pleasant place for the dealers to use. Ros, on the other hand, has no previous experience of anything like conrunning, being better known as a scribbler and apahack. She does, however, know what it is like to be an artist attempting to exhibit at a con and finding that display space and materials supplied for mounting artwork are unsuitable or inadequate and it is with this kind of thought in mind that she will organise the layout and equipment of the artroom.

You will come into contact with us only if you are interested in one or other of these facilities. On The Form you are invited to write in (to the BECCON address) for further details about book room, art show, or both. The committee will pass the message on to us and you will then be contacted further about your requirements. We hope in this way to provide as individual a service as possible - and we will hope to be in touch with as many of you as possible over the next six months or so.

THE EASTERCON CHARTER AND FUTURE EASTERCONS

Following the business meeting at Albacon which discussed two-year bidding and a possible Eastercon Charter for future Eastercons, Tim Illingworth has drawn up a draft Charter to serve as a basis for discussion, and will send a copy to anyone who is interested. Contact Tim directly at 63 Drake Road, Chessington, Surrey, KT9 1LQ.

While on the subject of future Eastercons, two bids have emerged for 1988:
Follycon will be bidding the Adelphi Hotel in Liverpool; their presupporting membership rate is £1, to FOLLYCON: 104 Pretoria Road, Patchway, Bristol, BS12 SP2.
Norwescon will be announcing a site in the North-West, possibly Manchester; their presupporting rate is £2, to Rochelle Reynolds/Alan Dorey: 22 Summerfield Drive, Middleton, Lancs, M24 2WW.
A possible bid for 1989 has appeared, under the name Contrivance, but has not yet announced itself officially.

KEROSINA PUBLICATIONS LTD

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS
Autumn 1986 to Spring 1987

Kerosina Books have pleasure in announcing details of their continuing high quality hardcover season

Shades of Darkness by Richard Cowper
Publication date: November 1986

Richard Cowper has always been widely regarded as one of Britain's finest SF writers, and he has recently won many new admirers with the paperback publication of his *White Bird of Kinship* novels (*The Road to Corlay* and others). ***Shades of Darkness*** is an elegant tale of a haunting in an English cottage, and of passions in a colonial Africa long since forgotten. It is an intriguing story of suspense and fear crafted by an SF master.

Illustrations by SMS

In keeping with their house style, Kerosina will be publishing two editions of this marvellous novel:

Ordinary edition: £10.95, hb 144pp. 750 copies only.

Presentation edition: £25.00, limited to 250 copies. Cloth bound, signed and numbered by the author. Includes a substantial booklet, *The Magic Spectacles and Other Tales*, a unique collection of three original fairy tales by Richard Cowper.

Gráinne by Keith Roberts
Publication Date: Spring 1987

Keith Roberts treats us to a truly miraculous experience in his latest and most beautifully written novel. Weaving together Irish mythology and Indian mysticism, he creates a Celtic revival in the near future that has unforeseen results. Undoubtedly his finest novel, ***Gráinne*** confirms Roberts in his rightful place at the forefront of SF writers.

Again there will be both an ordinary and a strictly limited presentation edition available. The presentation edition will be accompanied by a booklet that will be a particular treat to Roberts fans.

STILL AVAILABLE

Kaeti & Company by Keith Roberts, ONLY ORDINARY EDITION AVAILABLE, £12.50

"Excellent ... Complex, plaintive stories"
- *The Guardian*

We also have a few limited signed prints of the frontispiece of Kaeti & Company priced at £10.00. This highest possible quality print is limited to 25 copies only, and is A4 in size on A3 paper.

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A GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE

Kerosina Publications are publishing three books in 1987. After *Gráinne* in the Spring, we are planning a **Brian Aldiss** collection due out for the World SF Convention in Brighton. It will include some of his best recently published stories, and some startling originals. For our final book of 1987 we are negotiating for a major SF novel from one of America's finest new SF writers.

In 1988 we hope to publish a brilliant mainstream novel by **John Brunner**, based around the early days of CND and the Eastertime marches. Brunner is an author with a unique insight into the roots of CND, and the book is particularly appropriate since 1988 will be their 30th anniversary.

HEIDELBERG PRINCIPAL UNCERTAIN!

The lengths Earl Norbert Phettilfoon has gone to to add to his erudition are not widely appreciated. In fact, many years ago he enrolled at Heidelberg University to take their 'Use and Abuse of English' course, and as a result found himself involved in a duel.

The lecturer on the course, Herr Dirk Brandestoc, soon found he had no taste for Earl Norbert's pungent wit, and one day in the lecture theatre matters reached a head. Exasperated by the near-continuous stream of puns produced by his pupil, and appreciating that it would take nearly a full year before he could fail him, the lecturer challenged Earl to a duel. The terms of the duel were that whoever was the first blooded or who retired from the 'Field of Honour' agreed to leave the University forthwith. "Hah," Earl Norbert cried, "that will only take seconds." At this, one of the other students, Kris Hanger, who had a similarly punctilious turn of phrase, offered his assistance "as one of the duel controls." "You'll act as my foil, will you, lad?" "If he's going to act the Grim Rapier, I will - if I've got any slay in the matter!" "He looks fair ready to cutlass any moment now." And indeed Dirk was grinding his teeth at this repartee. "That was a brand new one" Kris cried. "It was, but you know what they say - epee your money..." "Why don't we cut and run to the bar" finished off Kris, and the pair departed, arm in arm.

Early the next morning, just as the mist was rising from the green and verdant fields, Earl Norbert went to face Dirk Brandestoc. Although he knew of Brandestoc's reputation as a feared sabre man, Earl intended to rely on his skilful defense work, and his secret weapon. As promised, Kris Hanger was acting as his second, and another student, Primus Claymore, as Brandestoc's. Having chosen their weapons, they took up their positions, ready to commence. They set to, and the blows flew thick and fast for a few seconds, until Brandestoc dexterously slid his blade through Earl Norbert's sleeve, just missing his arm and nearly ending the duel then and there. "Whew!" Earl exclaimed, "you nearly got an edge on me there, or is that too much of a pointed comment for you?" Dirk grunted, but otherwise made no reply, except to push his attack home even harder. "If I'm not more careful, I'll be sword in half. You see, I learned my technique, from a kukri book." The unaccustomed excercise was beginning to tell on Earl and he was breathing heavily, but still there was no reply. "Don't you fancy a duelogue?" Earl continued between breaths, "or do you think you'll fall flat against these sharp comments?" "I'm not sure this sort of heckling is allowed for in the duelling rules," interjected Primus Claymore. "That's enough out of you, Primus, if you don't want to be stove in," quipped Kris. "Keep it up Earl, he's getting edgy."

"You'd better steel yourself for some more pun-itive action, because I intend to punctuate all my comments appropriately, until either you're punch drunk or I'm punctured." A low moan escaped Dirk's lips as another attempt to break Earl's guard failed. "I've got plenty more cutting remarks, not to mention pointed comments, for you." Dirk's sword work was starting to grow ragged as both his tiredness, and the puns, started to take their toll. "But we'll soon iron out our differences provided you don't get overwrought and lose your temper, and even if you did I wouldn't slag you off because that would be ironical." At this Dirk's nerve broke, and throwing his sabre to the ground he turned and ran from this barrage of awful puns, thus forfeiting the duel.

Earl turned to Kris and said, "You see, like I told you... the pun is mightier..." "Maestro," replied Kris, as he gestured around them at the sere and blasted grass, "... even than the sward!"

MEMBERSHIP LIST at 12/09/1986

KEY: A = Attending S = Supporting P = Presupporting

0196	P		FABIAN
0067	P		GAMMA
0154	P		WOLF
0342	A	ABBOTT	MICHAEL
0263	A	AHMAD	AKEEL
0055	P	AKIEN	ARNOLD
0198	P	ALDHAM-BREARY	MIRANDA
0090	P	ALLAN	KAY
0332	A	ALLCOCK	PHILIP
0167	P	ALSTON	KIT
0015	A	AMERINGEN	BRIAN
0271	A	ANCELL	MICHAEL
0075	P	ANDREWS	STUART
0292	S	AP LOT	SIR AGRAVAIN
0179	P	ASTON	STUART
0035	P	ATKINSON	CHRIS
0095	A	ATKINSON	DENISE
0234	A	AUSTIN	MARGARET
0191	A	AXTELL	JON
0125	P	BACON THE THIRD	A.L.
0049	P	BALEN	HENRY
0347	A	BANKS	IAIN
0121	P	BARKER	JIM
0376	A	BARNARD	PHIL
0109	P	BARNES	BOB
0387	S	BEAN	SQUARE
0021	P	BEAR	WOOFIE
0370	A	BELL	DAVID
0368	A	BELL	IAN
0005	A	BERESFORD	SIMON
0051	A	BERNADI	MICHAEL
0282	A	BERNARDI	HELEN
0358	A	BERRY	TONY
0126	P	BILKUS	GARY
0268	A	BLACKLEY	ALAN
0293	A	BOOTH	DUNCAN
0294	A	BOOTH	JUDY
0283	A	BORGSTROM	KJELL
0210	P	BOTHAM	JOHN
0260	S	BOYCE	CHRIS
0279	A	BRANDSHAFT	RICHARD
0203	A	BRAZIER	PAUL
0050	P	BRIDOUX	DENNIS
0205	A	BROADRIBB	TIM
0054	A	BRUNNER	JOHN
0275	A	BUCKLEY	ED
0104	A	BULL	STEVE
0089	A	BULMER	CHARLOTTE
0324	A	BULMER	KEN
0178	P	BUNCE	MARK
0041	A	BURA	SAUL ANTHONY
0188	A	BURAK	LIZ
0298	A	BURNS	BILL
0115	A	BURNS	MARY
0159	A	BURSEY	CHRIS
0330	A	CALVERLEY	ROZ
0101	P	CAMPBELL	JOHN
0069	P	CAMPBELL	KIM
0032	P	CAMPBELL	MADELINE
0096	A	CAMPBELL	ROGER
0131	A	CARMICHAEL	MARY
0147	S	CAWTHORN	JAMES
0310	A	CHEATER	MIKE
0135	A	CHESTER	TONY
0235	P	CHEYNE	C
0211	A	CHRISTIE	MIKE
0073	P	CLARK	KEVIN S
0120	S	CLARKE	VINCE
0334	A	CLUTE	JOHN
0102	P	COHEN	JACK
0288	A	COHEN	PETER
0381	A	COLLARD	AIDAN
0044	P	CONNOR	CHUCK
0076	A	CONWAY	BARBARA
0130	A	COOPER	CHRIS
0012	A	COWIE	JONATHAN
0386	S	COX	CARDINAL
0284	A	CRAIG	JOYCE
0285	A	CRAIG	NEIL
0186	A	CRUTTENDEN	½R
0061	A	CULE	MIKE
0340	A	CULPIN	RAFE
0068	A	DALGLEISH	OSCAR
0094	A	DALLMAN	JOHN
0045	A	DAMESICK	MIKE
0103	P	DARROCH	JIM
0139	P	DAVIES	MALCOLM
0018	A	DAVIES	STEVE
0174	P	DAWSON	P H
0349	A	DAY	PETER J B
0377	A	DAY	ROBERT
0248	P	DE PIERI	LUCY
0323	A	DEAD	DAWN OF THE
0348	S	DEAN	LAWRENCE
0228	P	DICKINSON	RACHEL
0099	A	DICKSON	IAIN
0187	A	DICKSON	MARTIN
0164	P	DOBSON	DERMOT
0040	A	DOCHERTY	VINCENT
0056	A	DONALDSON	CHRIS
0112	P	DOREY	ALAN
0113	P	DOREY	AMANDA
0028	A	DORMER	PAUL
0312	S	EARNSHAW	ROGER
0137	A	EASTERBROOK	MARTIN
0072	A	EASTHOPE	CATH
0036	P	EDWARDS	MALCOLM
0008	A	EDWARDS	RICHARD
0296	A	ELING	HELEN
0297	A	ELING	STAN
0047	A	ELLIS	DAVE
0353	A	ELWORTHY	DAVID
0046	P	ERIKSSON	MAGNUS
0269	A	EVANS	BERNIE
0360	A	EVANS	MICK
0373	A	EVANS	P R
0242	A	EYEIONS	JULIET
0169	P	FENNELL	JANE
0078	P	FERON	JEANNE-MARIE
0077	P	FERON	MICHAEL
0200	P	FIGG	MIKE
0088	A	FINE	COLIN
0319	A	FINE	JOAN
0320	A	FINE	PHILLIP
0117	P	FLATON	JOHAN
0276	A	FORD	MIKE

0202	P	FRANCIS	SHERRY
0127	A	FRANCIS	SUSAN
0053	A	FUNNELL	GWEN
0149	P	GALLAGHER	KEVIN
0199	A	GARDNER	PAT
0177	A	GERBISH	YE
0295	A	GILLIGAN	PETE
0144	A	GLOVER	WENDY
0100	A	GODDARD	JIM
0171	P	GOODMAN	DAVID A
0183	A	GOODWIN	CHARLES
0184	A	GOODWIN	HELEN
0305	A	GORDON	MARGRET C P
0327	A	GOULD	MIKE
0277	A	GRAY	ROBERTA
0193	P	GREEN	ANN
0336	A	GREEN	CAROL ANN
0150	P	GREEN	STEVE
0192	A	GREHAN	PETER
0038	P	GROOM	PAUL
0369	A	GROSVENOR	JULIE
0107	A	GROVES	PHILIP
0262	A	GUNNARSSON	URBAN
0385	S	HAMILTON	MARIA
0024	P	HAMMOND	TONY
0346	A	HARDY	DAVID
0351	S	HARRISON	HARRY
0229	A	HARRISON	SUE
0317	A	HARVEY	EVE
0316	A	HARVEY	JOHN
0039	A	HATCH	S C
0195	A	HEAD	GRAHAM
0030	A	HEADLONG	JULIAN
0017	A	HEATHCOTE	ANTHONY
0309	A	HEHIR	TERESA
0350	S	HESKETT	PAUL
0308	A	HEWISON	RICHARD C
0082	A	HIBBERT	JOY
0079	A	HOARE	KATIE
0080	A	HOARE	MARTIN
0254	P	HOBSON	ANDY
0333	A	HODKIN	MALCOLM
0146	P	HODSON	DAVE
0145	P	HOLDSTOCK	ROB
0022	A	HOLLAND	NICK
0029	A	HOLROYD	MARINA J.
0157	A	HOLT	DEREK
0367	A	HOLT	KIM
0383	A	HOUSDEN	VALERIE
0227	P	HUBBARD	STEVE
0092	A	ILLINGWORTH	TIM
0239	P	INSOLE	ANGELA
0123	P	INSTON	AANDI
0270	A	IRVING	MATHEW
0119	S	JACKSON	ROB
0091	P	JAMES	GRAHAM
0221	P	JAMES	W H
0043	P	JARROLD	JOHN
0033	P	JEWETT	BOB
0124	P	JOHNSON	JEREMY
0337	A	JORDAN	DEBORAH
0258	A	KAILL	M R
0238	P	KAMAL HASHMI	M M
0329	P	KELLY	ANDY
0170	S	KENNAWAY	RICHARD
0133	A	KENNY	EILEEN
0132	A	KENNY	RORY
0318	A	KERR	MORAG
0140	P	KHAN	NAVEED
0243	A	KILLICK	JANE
0060	P	KINCAID	PAUL
0027	A	KITSON	BARBARA
0215	P	KLOUS	ZWEITSE
0152	P	KNIGHT	KEITH
0352	S	KOHLER	ALICE
0209	A	LAKE	JAN
0208	A	LAKE	KEN
0037	P	LANDIS	HENRY JOHN
0097	A	LANGFORD	DAVE
0345	A	LANGFORD	HAZEL
0372	A	LARTER	NICHOLAS J
0249	P	LAWRENCE	GERALD
0122	A	LAWSON	STEVE
0197	P	LEEDING	CHRIS
0160	P	LERMIT	DAVID
0253	P	LINN	ANDY
0272	A	LINTON	STEVE
0379	A	LONGLEY	BILL
0062	A	LOOSE	HANS
0158	A	LORD-BLACKLEY	ALAN-RECORD
0098	P	LOVETT	STEVE
0375	A	LUCAS	PHIL
0173	A	MABEY	PETER
0313	A	MACARAN	MELORA
0175	A	MACDONALD	ALISON
0219	A	MACDONALD	BRUCE
0304	S	MACKENNAN	PATRICIA
0023	P	MAGORRIAN	BRIAN
0290	A	MANN	KENNETH C
0155	P	MASCETTI	HUGH
0286	A	MCCALLUM	DOUGLAS
0338	A	MCCALLUM (2)	DOUGLAS
0194	P	MCCARTHY	HELEN
0300	A	MCKAY	SAMUEL
0071	A	MCLEAN	RORY O
0363	I	MCNABB	ADAM
0226	A	MCNABB	HELEN
0362	I	MCNABB	KATY
0225	A	MCNABB	MIKE
0364	I	MCNABB	NICOLA
0380	A	MEEHAN	RICHARD
0070	S	MEENAN	MARK
0245	P	MEMBERY	MARTIN
0084	A	MILLS	NICK
0344	A	MILNER	ROD
0356	A	MOIR	DEBBY
0026	A	MOIR	MIKE
0240	P	MOLLOY	MICHAEL
0354	A	MORGAN	CHRIS
0355	A	MORGAN	PAULINE
0014	A	MULLAN	CAROLINE
0165	P	MURPHY	JOHN
0314	F	NADLER	HARRY
0315	A	NADLER	LINDSEY
0034	P	NICHOLLS	PETER
0326	A	NIJENHUIS	JEROEN
0074	P	NORMAN	LISANNE
0207	A	NORTH	GYTHA
0301	A	NORTH	HEATHER
0148	P	O'DONNELL	ANDREW

0218	P	OBORN	KEITH
0217	P	OBORN	KRYSTYNA
0057	A	OLDROYD	PAUL
0108	A	OSTERMAN	PER
0251	P	OWEN	JULIE
0031	A	PAGE	ANNE
0042	P	PAGE	ROBIN
0374	A	PALMER	NICK
0264	A	PAOLINI	PAUL
0230	P	PARDOE	DARROLL
0325	A	PARTINGTON	CHUCK
0087	A	PATERSON	JOAN
0182	P	PATTERSON	DAVE
0267	A	PEARSON	CHRISSIE
0048	P	PEARSON	MIKE
0168	P	PEARSON	NIGEL
0289	A	PECHERSKY	ELISE
0016	A	PEEK	BERNIE
0257	P	PEEL	DENNIS
0007	A	PERKINS	ROGER
0311	A	PEYTON	ROG
0206	P	PICKERING	MRS F
0306	A	PICKERSGILL	GREG
0116	A	PICKERSGILL	LINDA
0066	P	PLANET	FORBIDDEN
0250	P	PORTER	MAUREEN
0180	A	POWER	DAVE
0287	A	PRATCHETT	TERRY
0105	A	PRATT	STEPHEN
0231	P	PRICE	DAI
0291	A	PYLE	TERRY
0321	A	RAPHAELINE	ALAN
0181	P	READER	KEVIN
0189	A	REED	MARTIN
0110	P	REYNOLDS	ROCHELLE
0252	P	RHODES	JOHN
0201	A	RIGAL	DOV
0001	A	ROBERTS	KEITH
0085	A	ROBERTSON	ANDY
0190	P	ROBINSON	GUY
0006	A	ROBINSON	ROGER
0222	P	ROGERS	DOREEN
0220	P	ROGERS	JUSTIN
0083	A	ROGERS	MIC
0237	A	ROGERS	TONY
0273	A	ROSENBLUM	HOWARD
0274	A	ROSENBLUM	JUNE
0278	A	ROTHMAN	STEPHEN
0020	A	ROWLAND	MARCUS
0081	A	ROWLEY	DAVE
0378	A	SCANTLEBURY	MIKE
0176	A	SCOTT	MICHAEL
0335	A	SHACKLE	MATTHEW
0143	P	SHAW	BOB
0666	A	SHAW	BOB
0172	P	SHEARMAN	MOIRA J
0114	S	SHERWOOD	D M
0299	S	SHORROCK	NORMAN
0142	A	SLATER	JOYCE
0141	A	SLATER	KEN
0339	A	SMITH	FRANK
0259	P	SMITH	FRANK R
0106	A	SMITH	PETER J R
0328	A	SNEDDON	ROBERT J
0343	A	SNOWDON	ADRIAN
0138	P	SOLOMON	KATE
0302	A	SORENSEN	IAN
0224	A	SPENCER	PHIL
0371	A	STAVELEY-TAYLOR	BEN
0136	A	STEEL	JAMES
0134	P	STEELE	JENNIFER
0241	P	STEPHENSON	ANDREW
0058	A	STEWART	ALEX
0013	A	STEWART	JOHN
0223	P	STEWART	MARTIN
0281	A	STEWART	PAUL A
0236	P	STILLIE	GRAEME
0163	A	STONE	MIKE
0280	A	STRANDBERG	LARS
0156	P	STRATMANN	GARY
0153	A	SUSLOWICZ	CHRIS
0331	S	TAYLOR	GILL
0384	S	TAYLOR	NEIL
0216	A	TAYLOR	TOM
0213	A	THE GREEN	KEITH
0214	S	THE KREGOYNE	POMPINO
0166	A	THOMAS	DAVE G
0357	S	THOMPSON	D C
0322	A	THOMPSON	RAY
0063	A	THORLEY	PAUL
0086	A	TIBS	
0059	P	TUDOR	MARTIN
0359	S	TUTTLE	LISA
0009	A	TYERS	PETE
0019	A	VAN DER PUTTE	LARRY
0266	A	VAN TOORN	ANGELIQUE
0265	A	VAN TOORN	KEES
0064	A	VINE	RICHARD
0255	P	WAITE	JONATHAN
0244	A	WALTERS	DAI
0361	A	WALTERS	HUW
0128	A	WALTON	CHRIS
0052	A	WAREHAM	PETER
0233	P	WARREN	CLIVE
0232	P	WARREN	JEANETTE
0161	P	WATKINS	ASHLEY
0246	P	WATSON	IAN
0247	P	WATSON	JUDY
0382	A	WEBB	GERRY
0151	P	WEDDELL	DAVE
0118	S	WELLS	PAM
0366	I	WESTHEAD	KAREN
0011	A	WESTHEAD	KATHY
0010	A	WESTHEAD	MIKE
0365	I	WESTHEAD	PETER
0307	A	WESTON	PETER
0256	P	WHEATCROFT	MARTIN
0212	A	WHEATCROFT	MARY
0303	A	WHEATLY	LAURA
0261	A	WHITEOAK	OWEN
0025	P	WHYSALL	KIM
0185	A	WIGHTMAN	COLIN
0093	A	WILKES	JOHN
0129	A	WILKINSON	BRIDGET
0341	A	WILLIAMS	GEOFFREY C R
0162	A	WILLIS	PHIL
0111	P	WOLLHEIM	BETSY
0065	P	WOLLHEIM	ELSIE B.
0204	A	WRIGHT	KATE